

ZEROS OF RANDOM POLYNOMIALS ON  $\mathbb{C}^m$ 

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ABSTRACT. For a regular compact set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and a measure  $\mu$  on  $K$  satisfying the Bernstein-Markov inequality, we consider the ensemble  $\mathcal{P}_N$  of polynomials of degree  $N$ , endowed with the Gaussian probability measure induced by  $L^2(\mu)$ . We show that for large  $N$ , the simultaneous zeros of  $m$  polynomials in  $\mathcal{P}_N$  tend to concentrate around the Silov boundary of  $K$ ; more precisely, their expected distribution is asymptotic to  $N^m \mu_{eq}$ , where  $\mu_{eq}$  is the equilibrium measure of  $K$ . For the case where  $K$  is the unit ball, we give scaling asymptotics for the expected distribution of zeros as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A classical result due to Hammersley [Ha] (see also [SV]), loosely stated, is that the zeros of a random complex polynomial

$$f(z) = \sum_{j=0}^N c_j z^j \quad (1)$$

mostly tend towards the unit circle  $|z| = 1$  as the degree  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , when the coefficients  $c_j$  are independent complex Gaussian random variables of mean zero and variance one. In this paper, we will prove a multivariable result (Theorem 3.1), a special case (Example 3.5) of which shows, loosely stated, that the common zeros of  $m$  random complex polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ ,

$$f_k(z) = \sum_{|J| \leq N} c_J^k z_1^{j_1} \cdots z_m^{j_m} \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, m, \quad (2)$$

tend to concentrate on the product of the unit circles  $|z_j| = 1$  ( $j = 1, \dots, m$ ) as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , when the coefficients  $c_J^k$  are i.i.d. complex Gaussian random variables.

The following is our basic setting: We let  $K$  be a compact set in  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and let  $\mu$  be a Borel probability measure on  $K$ . We assume that  $K$  is non-pluripolar and we let  $V_K$  be its pluricomplex Green function. We also assume that  $K$  is regular (i.e.,  $V_K = V_K^*$ ) and that  $\mu$  satisfies the Bernstein-Markov inequality (see §2). We give the space  $\mathcal{P}_N$  of holomorphic polynomials of degree  $\leq N$  on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  the Gaussian probability measure  $\gamma_N$  induced by the Hermitian inner product

$$(f, g) = \int_K f \bar{g} d\mu. \quad (3)$$

The Gaussian measure  $\gamma_N$  can be described as follows: We write  $f = \sum_{j=1}^{d(N)} c_j p_j$ , where  $\{p_j\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{P}_N$  with respect to (3) and  $d(N) = \dim \mathcal{P}_N = \binom{N+m}{m}$ . Identifying

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$f \in \mathcal{P}_N$  with  $c = (c_1, \dots, c_{d(N)}) \in \mathbb{C}^{d(N)}$ , we have

$$d\gamma_N(s) = \frac{1}{\pi^{d(N)}} e^{-|c|^2} dc.$$

(The measure  $\gamma_N$  is independent of the choice of orthonormal basis  $\{p_j\}$ .) In other words, a random polynomial in the ensemble  $(\mathcal{P}_N, \gamma_N)$  is a polynomial  $f = \sum_j c_j p_j$ , where the  $c_j$  are independent complex Gaussian random variables with mean 0 and variance 1.

Our main result, Theorem 3.1, gives asymptotics for the expected zero current of  $k$  i.i.d. random polynomials ( $1 \leq k \leq m$ ). In particular, the expected distribution  $\mathbf{E}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m})$  of simultaneous zeros of  $m$  independent random polynomials in  $(\mathcal{P}_N, \gamma_N)$  has the asymptotics

$$\frac{1}{N^m} \mathbf{E}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m}) \rightarrow \mu_{eq} \quad \text{weak}^*, \quad (4)$$

where  $\mu_{eq} = (\frac{i}{\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} V_K)^m$  is the equilibrium measure of  $K$ . Here,  $\mathbf{E}(X)$  denotes the expected value of a random variable  $X$ .

The reader may notice from (4) that the distributions of zeros for the measures on  $\mathcal{P}_N$  considered here are quite different from those of the  $SU(m+1)$  ensembles studied, for example, in [SZ1, SZ4, BSZ1, BSZ2, DS]. The Gaussian measure on the  $SU(m+1)$  polynomials is based on the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_N = \int_{S^{2m+1}} F_N \overline{G_N},$$

where  $F_N, G_N \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, z_1, \dots, z_m]$  denote the degree  $N$  homogenizations of  $f$  and  $g$  respectively. It follows easily from the  $SU(m+1)$ -invariance of the inner product that the expected distribution of simultaneous zeros equals  $\frac{N^m}{\pi^m} \omega^m$  (exactly), where  $\omega$  is the Fubini-Study Kähler form (on  $\mathbb{C}^m \subset \mathbb{CP}^m$ ). We note that, unlike (3), this inner product depends on  $N$ ; indeed,  $\|z^J\|_N^2 = \frac{m!(N-|J|)!j_1! \dots j_m!}{(N+m)!}$  [SZ1, (30)].

In this paper, we also give scaling limits for the expected zero density in the case of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^m$  (Theorem 4.1). The problem of finding scaling limits for more general sets in  $\mathbb{C}^m$  remains open. Another open problem is to establish the multivariable version of the following one variable result: For a regular subset  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ , it is known (see [SZ1, Bl2]) that with probability one, a sequence  $\{f_N\}_{N=1,2,\dots}$  of random polynomials of increasing degree satisfies:

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} Z_{f_N} = \mu_{eq} \quad \text{weak}^*.$$

## 2. BACKGROUND

We let  $\mathcal{L}$  denote the Lelong class of plurisubharmonic (PSH) functions on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  of at most logarithmic growth at  $\infty$ . That is

$$\mathcal{L} := \{u \in \text{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^m) \mid u(z) \leq \log^+ \|z\| + O(1)\} \quad (5)$$

For  $K$  a compact subset of  $\mathbb{C}^m$ , we define its pluricomplex Green function  $V_K(z)$  via

$$V_K(z) = \sup\{u(z) \mid u \in \mathcal{L}, u \leq 0 \text{ on } K\}. \quad (6)$$

We will assume  $K$  is regular, that is by definition,  $V_K$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  (and so  $V_K = V_K^*$ , its uppersemicontinuous regularization). The function  $V_K$  is a locally bounded PSH function

on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and, in fact

$$V_K - \log^+ \|z\| = O(1) . \quad (7)$$

By a basic result of Bedford and Taylor [BT1] (see [Kl]), the complex Monge-Ampère operator  $(dd^c)^m = (2i\partial\bar{\partial})^m$  is defined on any locally bounded PSH function  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and in particular on  $V_K$ . The equilibrium measure of  $K$  is defined by (see [Kl, Cor. 5.5.3])

$$\mu_{eq}(K) := \left( \frac{i}{\pi} \partial\bar{\partial} V_K \right)^m \quad (8)$$

Since  $V_K$  satisfies (7), it is a positive Borel measure, here normalized to have mass 1. The support of the measure  $\mu_{eq}(K)$  is the Silov boundary of  $K$  for the algebra of entire analytic functions [BT2]. In one variable, i.e.  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,  $V_K$  is the Green function of the unbounded component of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus K$  with a logarithmic pole at  $\infty$ , and  $\mu_{eq}(K) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Delta V_K$ , where  $\Delta$  is the Laplacian [Ra].

Let  $\mu$  be a finite positive Borel measure on  $K$ . The measure  $\mu$  is said to satisfy a Bernstein-Markov (BM) inequality, if, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a constant  $C = C(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\|p\|_K \leq C e^{\varepsilon \deg(p)} \|p\|_{L^2(\mu)} \quad (9)$$

for all holomorphic polynomials  $p$ . Essentially, the BM inequality says that the  $L^2$  norms and the sup norms of a sequence of holomorphic polynomials of increasing degrees are “asymptotically equivalent”.

The question arises as to which measures actually satisfy the BM inequality. It is a result of Nguyen-Zeriahi [NZ] combined with [Kl, Cor. 5.6.7] that for  $K$  regular,  $\mu_{eq}(K)$  satisfies BM. This fact is used in Examples 3.5–3.6. In [Bl1, Theorem 2.2], a “mass-density” condition for a measure to satisfy BM was given. (See also [BL].)

Our proof uses the *probabilistic Poincaré-Lelong formula* for the zeros of random functions (Proposition 2.1 below). Considering a slightly more general situation, we let  $g_1, \dots, g_d$  be holomorphic functions with no common zeros on a domain  $U \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ . (We are interested in the case where  $U = \mathbb{C}^m$  and  $\{g_j\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{P}_N$  with respect to the inner product (3), as discussed above.) We let  $\mathcal{F}$  denote the ensemble of random holomorphic functions of the form  $f = \sum c_j g_j$ , where the  $c_j$  are independent complex Gaussian random variables with mean 0 and variance 1. We consider the *Szegő kernel*

$$S_{\mathcal{F}}(z, w) = \sum_{j=1}^d g_j(z) \overline{g_j(w)} .$$

For the case where the  $g_j$  are orthonormal functions with respect to an inner product on  $\mathcal{O}(U)$ ,  $S_{\mathcal{F}}(z, w)$  is the kernel for the orthogonal projection onto the span of the  $g_j$ .

Under the assumption that the  $g_j$  have no common zeros, it is easily shown using Sard’s theorem (or a variation of Bertini’s theorem) that for almost all  $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{F}$ , the differentials  $df_1, \dots, df_k$  are linearly independent at all points of the zero set

$$\text{loc}(f_1, \dots, f_k) := \{z \in U : f_1(z) = \dots = f_k(z) = 0\} .$$

This condition implies that the complex hypersurfaces  $\text{loc}(f_j)$  are smooth and intersect transversely, and hence  $\text{loc}(f_1, \dots, f_k)$  is a codimension  $k$  complex submanifold of  $U$ . We

then let  $Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k} \in \mathcal{D}'^{k,k}(U)$  denote the current of integration over  $\text{loc}(f_1, \dots, f_k)$ :

$$(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k}, \varphi) = \int_{\text{loc}(f_1, \dots, f_k)} \varphi, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{D}^{m-k, m-k}(U).$$

We shall use the following Poincaré-Lelong formula from [SZ3, SZ4]:

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *The expected zero current of  $k$  independent random functions  $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{F}$  is given by*

$$\mathbf{E}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k}) = \left( \frac{i}{2\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} \log S_{\mathcal{F}}(z, z) \right)^k.$$

The proof follows by a verbatim repetition of the proof of Proposition 5.1 in [SZ3] (which gives the case where the  $g_j$  are normalized monomials with exponents in a Newton polytope). The codimension  $k = 1$  case was given in [SZ1] (for sections of holomorphic line bundles), and in dimension 1 by Edelman-Kostlan [EK]. (The formula also holds for infinite-dimensional ensembles; see [So, SZ4].) The general case follows from the codimension 1 case together with the fact that

$$\mathbf{E}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k}) = \mathbf{E}(Z_{f_1}) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathbf{E}(Z_{f_k}) = \mathbf{E}(Z_f)^k, \quad (10)$$

which is a consequence of the independence of the  $f_j$ . The wedge product of currents is not always defined, but  $Z_{f_1} \wedge \dots \wedge Z_{f_k}$  is almost always defined (and equals  $Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k}$  whenever the hypersurfaces  $\text{loc}(f_j)$  are smooth and intersect transversely), and a short argument given in [SZ3] yields (10). (In fact, the left equality of (10) holds for independent non-identically-distributed  $f_j$ , as proven in [SZ3].) We note that the expectations in (10) are smooth forms.

### 3. RANDOM POLYNOMIALS ON POLYNOMIALLY CONVEX SETS

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $\mu$  be a Borel probability measure on a regular compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ , and suppose that  $(K, \mu)$  satisfies the Bernstein-Markov inequality. Let  $1 \leq k \leq m$ , and let  $(\mathcal{P}_N^k, \gamma_N^k)$  denote the ensemble of  $k$ -tuples of i.i.d. Gaussian random polynomials of degree  $\leq N$  with the Gaussian measure  $d\gamma_N$  induced by  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then*

$$\frac{1}{N^k} \mathbf{E}_{\gamma_N^k}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_k}) \rightarrow \left( \frac{i}{\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} V_K \right)^k \quad \text{weak}^*, \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty,$$

where  $V_K$  is the pluricomplex Green function of  $K$  with pole at infinity.

To prove Theorem 3.1, we consider the Szegő kernels

$$S_N(z, w) := S_{(\mathcal{P}_N, \gamma_N)}(z, w) = \sum_{j=1}^{d(N)} p_j(z) \overline{p_j(w)},$$

where  $\{p_j\}$  is an  $L^2(\mu)$ -orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{P}_N$ . Our proof is based on approximating the extremal function  $V_K$  by the (normalized) logarithms of the Szegő kernels  $S_N(z, z)$  (Lemma 3.4).

We begin by considering the polynomial suprema

$$\Phi_N^K(z) = \sup\{|f(z)| : f \in \mathcal{P}_N, \|f\|_K \leq 1\}. \quad (11)$$

Since  $\frac{1}{N} \log f \in \mathcal{L}$ , for  $f \in \mathcal{P}_N$ , it is clear that  $\frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K \leq V_K$ , for all  $N$ . Pioneering work of Zaharjuta [Za] and Siciak [Si1, Si2] established the convergence of  $\frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K$  to  $V_K$ . The

uniform convergence when  $K$  is regular seems not to have been explicitly stated and we give the proof below.

**LEMMA 3.2.** *Let  $K$  be a regular compact set in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . Then*

$$\frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K(z) \rightarrow V_K(z)$$

*uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{C}^m$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that  $1 \leq \Phi_j \leq \Phi_j \Phi_k \leq \Phi_{j+k}$ , for  $j, k \geq 0$ . By a result of Siciak [Si1] and Zaharjuta [Za] (see [Kl, Theorem 5.1.7]),

$$V_K(z) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K(z) = \sup_N \frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K(z), \quad (12)$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^m$ .

We use the regularity of  $K$  to show that the convergence is uniform: let

$$\psi_N = \frac{1}{N} \log \Phi_N^K \geq 0.$$

Thus for  $N, k \geq 1, j \geq 0$ , we have

$$Nk \psi_{Nk} + j \psi_j \leq (Nk + j) \psi_{Nk+j}.$$

Since  $\psi_N \leq \psi_{Nk}$ , we then obtain the inequality

$$\psi_{Nk+j} \geq \frac{Nk}{Nk+j} \psi_N + \frac{j}{Nk+j} \psi_j \geq \frac{Nk}{Nk+j} \psi_N. \quad (13)$$

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . For each  $a \in \mathbb{C}^m$ , we choose  $N_a \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that

$$V_K(a) - \psi_{N_a}(a) < \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{V_K(a)}{N_a} < \varepsilon,$$

and then choose a neighborhood  $U_a$  of  $a$  such that

$$|V_K(z) - V_K(a)| < \varepsilon, \quad \psi_{N_a}(z) \geq \psi_{N_a}(a) - \varepsilon, \quad \frac{V_K(z)}{N_a} < \varepsilon, \quad \text{for } z \in U_a.$$

Now let  $N \geq N_a^2$ , and write  $N = N_a k + j$ , where  $k \geq N_a, 0 \leq j < N_a$ . By (12)–(13), we have

$$0 \leq V_K - \psi_N \leq V_K - \frac{N_a k}{N_a k + j} \psi_{N_a} \leq V_K - \frac{N_a}{N_a + 1} \psi_{N_a} \leq V_K - \psi_{N_a} + \frac{1}{N_a + 1} V_K. \quad (14)$$

Hence, for all  $N \geq N_a^2$  and for all  $z \in U_a$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq V_K(z) - \psi_N(z) &< V_K(z) - \psi_{N_a}(z) + \varepsilon \\ &= [V_K(a) - \psi_{N_a}(a)] + [V_K(z) - V_K(a)] + [\psi_{N_a}(a) - \psi_{N_a}(z)] + \varepsilon \\ &< 4\varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Hence for each compact  $A \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ , we can cover  $A$  with finitely many  $U_{a_i}$ , so that we have by (15),

$$\|V_K - \psi_N\|_A \leq 4\varepsilon \quad \forall N \geq \max_i N_{a_i}^2.$$

□

LEMMA 3.3. *For all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $C = C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that*

$$\frac{1}{d(N)} \leq \frac{S_N(z, z)}{\Phi_N^K(z)^2} \leq C e^{\varepsilon N} d(N).$$

*Proof.* Let  $f \in \mathcal{P}_N$  with  $\|f\|_K \leq 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &= \left| \int_K S_N(z, w) f(w) d\mu(w) \right| \leq \int_K |S_N(z, w)| d\mu(w) \\ &\leq \int_K S_N(z, z)^{\frac{1}{2}} S_N(w, w)^{\frac{1}{2}} d\mu(w) = S_N(z, z)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|S_N(w, w)^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_{L^1(\mu)} \\ &\leq S_N(z, z)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|1\|_{L^2(\mu)} \|S_N(w, w)^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_{L^2(\mu)} = S_N(z, z)^{\frac{1}{2}} d(N)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the supremum over  $f \in \mathcal{P}_N$  with  $\|f\|_K \leq 1$ , we obtain the left inequality of the lemma.

To verify the right inequality, we let  $\{p_j\}$  be a sequence of  $L^2(\mu)$ -orthonormal polynomials, obtained by applying Gram-Schmidt to a sequence of monomials of non-decreasing degree, so that  $\{p_1, \dots, p_{d(N)}\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{P}_N$  (for each  $N \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ). By the Bernstein-Markov inequality (9), we have

$$\|p_j\|_K \leq C e^{\varepsilon \deg p_j}$$

and hence

$$|p_j(z)| \leq \|p_j\|_K \Phi_{\deg p_j}^K(z) \leq C e^{\varepsilon \deg p_j} \Phi_{\deg p_j}^K(z) \leq C e^{\varepsilon N} \Phi_N^K(z), \quad \text{for } j \leq d(N).$$

Therefore,

$$S_N(z, z) = \sum_{j=1}^{d(N)} |p_j(z)|^2 \leq d(N) C^2 e^{2\varepsilon N} \Phi_N^K(z)^2.$$

□

LEMMA 3.4. *Under the hypotheses of Theorem 3.1, we have*

$$\frac{1}{2N} \log S_N(z, z) \rightarrow V_K(z)$$

*uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{C}^m$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Recalling that  $d(N) = \binom{N+m}{m}$ , we have by Lemma 3.3,

$$-\frac{m}{N} \log(N+m) \leq \frac{1}{N} \log \left( \frac{S_N(z, z)}{\Phi_N^K(z)^2} \right) \leq \frac{\log C}{N} + \varepsilon + \frac{m}{N} \log(N+m).$$

Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, we then have

$$\frac{1}{N} \log \left( \frac{S_N(z, z)}{\Phi_N^K(z)^2} \right) \rightarrow 0. \tag{16}$$

The conclusion follows from Lemma 3.2 and (16). □

*Proof of Theorem 3.1:* It follows from Lemma 3.4 and the fact that the complex Monge-Ampère operator is continuous under uniform limits [BT1],

$$\left( \frac{i}{2\pi N} \partial \bar{\partial} \log S_N(z, z) \right)^k \rightarrow \left( \frac{i}{\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} V_K(z) \right)^k \quad \text{weak}^*.$$

The conclusion then follows from Proposition 2.1.  $\square$

EXAMPLE 3.5. Let  $K$  be the unit polydisk in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . Then  $V_K = \max_{j=1}^m \log^+ |z_j|$ , the Silov boundary of  $K$  is the product of the circles  $|z_j| = 1$  ( $j = 1, \dots, m$ ), and  $d\mu_{eq} = (\frac{1}{2\pi})^m d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_m$  where  $d\theta_j$  is the angular measure on the circle  $|z_j| = 1$ .

The monomials  $z^J := z_1^{j_1} \cdots z_m^{j_m}$ , for  $|J| \leq N$ , form an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{P}_N$ . A random polynomial in the ensemble is of the form

$$f(z) = \sum_{|J| \leq N} c_J z^J$$

where the  $c_J$  are independent complex Gaussian random variables of mean zero and variance one. By Theorem 3.1,  $\mathbf{E}_{\gamma_N^k}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m}) \rightarrow (\frac{1}{2\pi})^m d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_m$  weak\*, as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . In particular, the common zeros of  $m$  random polynomials tend to the product of the unit circles  $|z_j| = 1$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .

EXAMPLE 3.6. Let  $K$  be the unit ball  $\{\|z\| \leq 1\}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . Then the Silov boundary of  $K$  is its topological boundary  $\{\|z\| = 1\}$ ,  $V_K(z) = \log^+ \|z\|$ , and  $\mu_{eq}$  is the invariant hypersurface measure on  $\|z\| = 1$  normalized to have total mass one.

#### 4. SCALING LIMIT ZERO DENSITY FOR ORTHOGONAL POLYNOMIALS ON $S^{2m-1}$

Examples 3.5 and 3.6 both reduce to the unit disk in the one variable case. In that case, detailed scaling limits are known (see, for example, [IZ]). For a more general compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  with an analytic boundary, scaling limits are found in [SZ2].

In this section, we consider the case where  $K = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^m : \|z\| \leq 1\}$  is the unit ball and  $\mu$  is its equilibrium measure, i.e. invariant measure on the unit sphere  $S^{2m-1}$ . We have the following scaling asymptotics for the expected distribution of zeros of  $m$  random polynomials orthonormalized on the sphere:

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $(\mathcal{P}_N^m, \gamma_N^m)$  denote the ensemble of  $m$ -tuples of i.i.d. Gaussian random polynomials of degree  $\leq N$  with the Gaussian measure  $d\gamma_N$  induced by  $L^2(S^{2m-1}, \mu)$ , where  $\mu$  is the invariant measure on the unit sphere  $S^{2m-1} \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ . Then*

$$\mathbf{E}_{\gamma_N^m}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m}) = D_N (\log \|z\|^2) \left( \frac{i}{2} \partial \bar{\partial} \|z\|^2 \right)^m,$$

where

$$\frac{1}{N^{m+1}} D_N \left( \frac{u}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi^m} F_m''(u) F_m'(u)^{m-1} + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right), \quad F_m(u) = \log \left[ \frac{d^{m-1}}{du^{m-1}} \left( \frac{e^u - 1}{u} \right) \right].$$

*Proof.* We write

$$z^J = z_1^{j_1} \cdots z_m^{j_m}, \quad z = (z_1, \dots, z_m), \quad J = (j_1, \dots, j_m).$$

An easy computation yields

$$\int_{S^{2m-1}} |z^J|^2 d\mu(z) = \frac{(m-1)! j_1! \cdots j_m!}{(|J| + m - 1)!} = \frac{1}{\binom{|J| + m - 1}{m-1} \binom{|J|}{J}}, \quad (17)$$

where

$$|J| = j_1 + \cdots + j_m, \quad \binom{|J|}{J} = \frac{|J|!}{j_1! \cdots j_m!}.$$

Thus an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{P}_N$  on  $S^{2m-1}$  is:

$$\varphi_J(z) = \binom{|J| + m - 1}{m - 1}^{\frac{1}{2}} \binom{|J|}{J}^{\frac{1}{2}} z^J, \quad |J| \leq N. \quad (18)$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} S_N(z, z) &= \sum_{|J| \leq N} |\varphi_J(z)|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^N \binom{k + m - 1}{m - 1} \sum_{|J|=k} \binom{k}{J} |z_1|^{2j_1} \cdots |z_m|^{2j_m} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^N \binom{k + m - 1}{m - 1} \|z\|^{2k}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$S_N(z, z) = g_N(\|z\|^2), \quad \text{where } g_N(x) = \sum_{k=0}^N \binom{k + m - 1}{m - 1} x^k. \quad (19)$$

We note that

$$g_N = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} G_N^{(m-1)}, \quad \text{where } G_N(x) = \frac{1 - x^{N+m}}{1 - x}.$$

We denote by  $O(\frac{1}{N})$  any function  $\lambda(N, u) = \lambda_N(u) : \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying:

$$\forall R > 0, \forall j \in \mathbb{N}, \exists C_{Rj} \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad \text{such that} \quad \sup_{|u| < R} |\lambda_N^{(j)}(u)| < \frac{C_{Rj}}{N}. \quad (20)$$

We note that

$$N \log \left( 1 + \frac{u}{N} \right) = u + u^2 O \left( \frac{1}{N} \right) \quad (\text{for } |u| < N),$$

and hence

$$\left( 1 + \frac{u}{N} \right)^N = e^u + u^2 O \left( \frac{1}{N} \right).$$

Thus we have

$$\frac{1}{N} G_N \left( 1 + \frac{u}{N} \right) = \frac{e^u - 1}{u} + O \left( \frac{1}{N} \right). \quad (21)$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{N^m} g_N \left( 1 + \frac{u}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \frac{d^{m-1}}{du^{m-1}} \left( \frac{e^u - 1}{u} \right) + O \left( \frac{1}{N} \right). \quad (22)$$

Therefore

$$\log \left[ \frac{(m-1)!}{N^m} g_N \left( 1 + \frac{u}{N} \right) \right] = F_m(u) + O \left( \frac{1}{N} \right), \quad (23)$$

where  $F_m$  is given in the statement of the theorem.

Since the zero distribution is invariant under the  $\text{SO}(2m)$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}^m$ , we can write

$$\mathbf{E}_{\gamma_N^m}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m}) = D_N (\log \|z\|^2) \left( \frac{i}{2} \partial \bar{\partial} \|z\|^2 \right)^m. \quad (24)$$



Then  $D_N(\frac{u}{N})$  is the density at the point

$$z^N := \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} e^{u/2N}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} e^{u/2N} \right) \in \mathbb{C}^m, \quad \|z^N\|^2 = e^{u/N}.$$

We shall compute using the local coordinates  $\zeta_j = \rho_j + i\theta_j = \log z_j$ . Let

$$\Omega = \left( \frac{i}{2} \partial \bar{\partial} \sum |\zeta_j|^2 \right)^m.$$

By Proposition 2.1 and (19), we have

$$\mathbf{E}_{\gamma_N^m}(Z_{f_1, \dots, f_m}) = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right)^m \det \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho_j \partial \rho_k} \log g_N \left( \sum e^{2\rho_j} \right) \right) \Omega. \quad (25)$$

We note that

$$\Omega = m^m \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \right] \left( \frac{i}{2} \partial \bar{\partial} \|z\|^2 \right)^m \quad \text{at the point } z^N. \quad (26)$$

We let  $\mathbf{1}$  denote the  $m \times m$  matrix all of whose entries are equal to 1 (and we let  $I$  denote the  $m \times m$  identity matrix). By (23) and (25)–(26), we have

$$\begin{aligned} D_N\left(\frac{u}{N}\right) &= \left( \frac{m}{2\pi} \right)^m \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \right] \\ &\quad \times \det \left( 2m^{-2} e^{2u/N} (\log g_N)''(e^{u/N}) \mathbf{1} + 2m^{-1} e^{u/N} (\log g_N)'(e^{u/N}) I \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^m} \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \right] \det \left( m^{-1} N^2 F_m''(u) \mathbf{1} + N F_m'(u) I \right). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{N^{m+1}} D_N\left(\frac{u}{N}\right) &= \frac{1}{N^{m+1} \pi^m} \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \right] \\ &\quad \times \left\{ [N F_m'(u)]^m + m [m^{-1} N^2 F_m''(u)] [N F_m'(u)]^{m-1} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^m} F_m''(u) F_m'(u)^{m-1} + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right). \end{aligned}$$

□

*Remark:* There is a similarity between the scaling asymptotics of Theorem 4.1 and that of the one-dimensional  $\text{SU}(1, 1)$  ensembles in [BR] with the norms  $\|z^j\| = \binom{L-1+j}{j}^{-1/2}$ , for  $L \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Then the expected distribution of zeros of random  $\text{SU}(1, 1)$  polynomials of degree  $N$  has the asymptotics [BR, Th. 2.1]:

$$\mathbf{E}_N(Z_f) = \tilde{D}_N (\log |z|^2) \frac{i}{2} dz \wedge d\bar{z},$$

where (in our notation)

$$\frac{1}{N^2} \tilde{D}_N\left(\frac{u}{N}\right) = \frac{1}{\pi} F_{L-1}''(u) + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right).$$

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